

CANOVA'S STATUE OF WASHINGTON DESTROYED WITH CAPITOL AT RALEIGH



The statue of Washington, by Canova, was one of the tributes paid by the State of North Carolina to the father of his country. As this great work of art was unfortunately destroyed when the Capitol at Raleigh was burned in 1831, it has passed very much out of mind, and the story of its creation will be entirely new to most of our readers.

Antonio Canova, the greatest of modern Italian sculptors, was born at Possagno, a village situated at the foot of the Venetian Alps, in 1757, and began his career as a sculptor at the age of 16. He died on the 13th of October, 1821, having produced to the highest degree of eminence the plastic art. Popes and emperors delighted to do him honor. It was said of him "that the fascinating influence which the grace and beauty of his female figures exercised on the senses and the emotion produced by their tender and voluptuous expression, has caused him to be called by many the sculptor of Venus and the Graces, but it will not surely be said by posterity that the statue of the 'Father of His Country' was the work of Canova."

It was in 1815, when Canova was at the very summit of his fame, that Thomas Spencer, a member of the House of Commons for the county of Hyde, North Carolina, introduced a resolution in the General Assembly of North Carolina, in session at Raleigh, authorizing and requesting the Governor to purchase, at public expense, a statue of General Washington, to be placed in the Capitol or State House. No limit whatever was made as to cost, and Governor William Miller decided to get the best statue possible.

Senator James Turner, then representing North Carolina in the Senate of the United States, with Nathaniel Macon as his colleague, was applied to for information and advice. There was, as usual, a conflict as to whether the work should be done at home or abroad.

Thomas Jefferson and Joseph Hopkinson recommended Antonio Canova, of Rome, as the greatest sculptor of the day, and that to him should be confided the execution of the work, and their advice was adopted. The American minister to Naples, William Pinkney, of Maryland, and Thomas Appleton, American consul at Leghorn, Italy, were entrusted with the duty of arranging a contract with Canova.

Mr. Appleton soon learned that Canova was not to be persuaded only by money, as he was then overcrowded with work, but the honor of performing this work in honor of one who had performed such sublime deeds for the safety and liberty of his country induced Canova to accept the commission.

The statue was completed in 1821. It represents the hero sitting as a Roman Senator, with an air of noble simplicity, on an elegant seat, raised on a double square base. The fine tunic which he wears is seen only at the knee, being covered by an ample ornamental cuirass, above which is a magnificent mantle, clasped on his right shoulder and flowing down behind in majestic folds. Beneath his right foot, which is extended forward, is a parazonium sheathed, and a scepter, signifying that the successful termination of war and the history of what had rendered them now useless. The hero is in the act of writing on a tablet held in his left hand. The words are "George Washington to the People of the United States, Friends and Fellow-Citizens."

This statue was cut out of the purest

Cararra marble and was of heroic size. Upon its completion, it was brought by Commodore William Bainbridge, of the United States navy, in the United States ship Columbus, from Gibraltar to Boston having been brought on the United States ship Peacock from Civita Vecchia to Gibraltar. Upon the arrival of the Columbus at Boston the statue was removed to the "Mary Ann" and transported to Wilmington, N. C. It was then conveyed by steamboat to Fayetteville and from Fayetteville was hauled on a specially prepared carriage to Raleigh, where it arrived on Monday, the 24th of December, 1821. A great procession was formed to meet the statue and it was escorted with an imposing pageant. An address was delivered by Colonel William Polk, and it was placed in the Capitol under the supervision of Captain William Nichols.

When the Marquis De Lafayette visited Raleigh in March, 1825, he went to see this statue. An engraving was made of the statue with Lafayette at the base, of which a copy is now owned by Mrs. A. B. Andrews, of Raleigh.

Mr. Marshall L. Haywood, to whom we are indebted for much of the information in this notice, says:

"About six years after Lafayette's visit to Raleigh the Capitol was burned, through the carelessness of a tinner who left his soldering pot on the roof. This was on the 21st of June, 1831. I have heard it said that when the statue had been first placed in the Capitol one person, seeing that the building was not fireproof, suggested that rollers be put under the pedestal in order that it might be moved out on short notice, but the idea of the 'Father of His Country' on wheels was an idea too absurd to be entertained, and ridicule was the only reward for the person making the suggestion. Had the

advice been followed possibly the statue could have been saved. As it was, strenuous efforts were made, but without avail, as the marble was of great weight. Men and women alike plied their strength on the huge stone, but it had only been shifted a few feet when the flames put a stop to their work, and they were forced to retire, leaving Canova's masterpiece to its fate."

After the fire nothing remained of the statue except fragments so small that a restoration was impossible. During his recent visit to Richmond, Colonel A. M. Waddell, of Wilmington, said that it was his father who introduced the bill in the North Carolina Legislature to appropriate \$500 for the purchase of the statue, on which to place the statue in case of fire. The motion was opposed by a member from the western part of the State, and it was defeated on the ground that it would be a waste of the people's money. Before the Legislature met again, the statue had been destroyed. Were it now in existence, it would be second in importance only to the Houdon statue of Washington, which has been well described as the most precious piece of marble in America, and like it would have had a commercial value of fabulous magnitude.

It is sad to think that this noble effort of a great State to reach the highest point of art for the expression of its patriotism, should have had such a tragic end. The impression left, after all, is certainly greater admiration, for Washington, Canova and North Carolina.

A DUTCH TREAT

Large Juicy Lemons, per dozen	12c
Emeline Stove Polish	4c
Smart Set Whiskey, extra quality, quart bottle	75c
Malta-Vita and Tryabla Breakfast Food, per package	10c
French Peas, two cans	25c
Matchless, dozen boxes	4c
Best Sugar Cured Hams, per pound	14c
Finest Sugar Cured Breakfast Bacon, per pound	12c
Sand Soap, for cleaning purposes, two bars for	5c
White Sugar, six pounds	25c
for	7c
Arm and Hammer Brand Soda, per package	4c
Seven pounds of Large Lump Starch for	25c
Cornstarch, per pound	6c
Table Peaches, large cans, two for	25c
Early June Peas, per can	9c
for	9c
Pure Leaf Lard, best quality, per pound	9c
2 boxes Pearlina or Soapine	5c
for	5c
Don't fail to try our regular 60c, 40c, which we are now selling at, per pound	40c
Best American Granulated Sugar, per pound	43c
New N. C. Roe Herring, 18c, dozen, \$3.75 barrel, or one-half	\$2.25
barrel	
Which Hazel Tint Soap, three to box	10c
Cardova Coffee, in 1-pound packages	11c



Herrings, N. C., per dozen	\$2.25
18c; Roe, per 1-2 barrel	
Tea-Try our Green or Mixed	30c
Good Lard, per pound	8c
Imported Brandy Cherries, bottle	15c
Arbuckle's Arlova Coffee, 11 1/2c	
Chopped Beef, one-half pound cans, three for	25c
Fresh Soda Crackers and Ginger Snaps, per pound	4 1/2c
Fresh Country Butter, per pound	18c
Two Cans of California Apricots for	25c
Canned Tomatoes, good quality	5c
Freezing Sall for Ice Cream, per peck	10c
Timothy Hay	85c
Oatmeal Shape Soap, eight bars for	25c
Bon-Bon-Cheer, five to package, 6c; 10 in box	95c
Meal, best Dunlop, per peck	70c
18c; per bushel	
Chewing Tobacco, Plum, Peach, nolds's Sun Cured and all popular brands, three for	25c
Worcester Sauce and Catsup, per bottle	5c

Jefferson Spring Wheat Flour, per Bag, 35c; Barrel, \$5.50.

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Japanese Cats.

Cat fanciers all agree that Japan is the country of curious felines, and surely no example of the freak in the cat family is more singular than the tailless variety which abounds in the land of the rising sun. For the most part the cats of Japan are minus a bushy tail, although they sometimes have a tailbone undeveloped and a small tuft of hair.

the Chamberlin, and small dinners and teas were numerous, most of them in honor of the embryo admirals of the navy.

A very attractive dinner was given on Sunday evening at the Chamberlin by Major and Mrs. Rowan, of Fort Monroe. Their guests were Lieutenant William White, of the navy, and Mrs. William White, of the navy, and Mrs. William Chamberlin and Major Harlow, of Fort Monroe.

Mrs. Francis V. Brown's guests at cards on Tuesday morning were Mrs. William White, Mrs. William Chamberlin, Miss Dora Taylor, Mrs. Curtis Rosebeck, Mrs. Charles Kibbourn, Mrs. John T. Newton and Mrs. Andrew Hero.

Richmonders who were at the hotel for over Sunday were Governor and Mrs. Henderson, E. T. Johnston, R. W. Henderson, Mr. and Mrs. N. L. Massey, Miss Lucie Massey, O. B. Hill and Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Shelton.

Other guests at the Chamberlin are Miss Imogen Clark, Mrs. Barton Winchester, Mr. and Mrs. W. G. Chamberlin, Miss Dora Taylor, Mrs. Curtis Rosebeck, Mrs. Charles Kibbourn, Mrs. John T. Newton and Mrs. Andrew Hero.

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ONANCOCK, VA.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.) ONANCOCK, VA., June 25.—A dance was given last night in Hopkins' Hall. Owing to the fact that several thunder-clouds passed over this section in the early evening these invited from neighboring towns were unable to be present. The music was furnished by two strolling Italians, with harp and violin.

About twelve o'clock refreshments were served and the dancing was continued until the wee small hours of the morning. The chaperons were Mrs. E. B. Finney, Mrs. O. L. Parker, and Mrs. F. B. Lewis. Among those attending were: Miss Eleanor Conrad, of Winchester; Mrs. Mary Jolliffe, of Wilson, N. C.; Miss Nita Parkes, of Parkley; Misses Bluff Finney, Mary Wilkie, Nellie Powell, Connie Nock, Sarah Parker, Frances, Bessie McClown, of Onancock; Mr. Horace Willbank, of Parkley; Mr. Raymond, of U. S. Coast Survey; Mr. W. A. King, of Onley; Messrs. George and Henry Powell, Warner Ames, William Hopkins, Ernest Nock, Otto S. Parker, Robert Powell, F. B. Lewis, Drummond Forgue and Samuel Waples, of Onancock.

Mrs. O. L. Parker gave a delightful

OLD POINT COMFORT.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.) OLD POINT COMFORT, VA., June 25. The training squadron, Rear Admiral F. H. Sanders commanding, which has aboard the two battalions of midshipmen

from the United States Naval Academy, spent last week in Hampton Roads, consequently there was much gaiety at Old Point. Dances were given every evening at

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Sour Pickles, per gallon	25c
Whiskies, Gibson XXXX, or Mount Vernon, Old Rye, per quart bottle	75c
Smithfield Hams, small, per pound	15c
Baker's Chocolate, per cake	15c
Quart Jar Apple Butter, Jelly and Syrup	10c
Good Brooms, two-string, 10c; good Five-String Brooms	20c
Oil Sardines, per box	4c
Preserves, home-made, put up in five-pound pails	30c
Large boxes Mustard Sardines for	6c
Large kit New Mackerel	\$1.00
New Quaker Oats, per pack	9c
Egg-O-Soo Breakfast Food, per package	9c
Two Dots	18c
Good Corn Whiskey	\$2.00
Duffy's Malt Whiskey, per bottle	80c
Vinegar, pure cider, per gallon	20c
Rice, whole grain, Carolina, per pound	6c
Quart Jar of Home-Made Sweet Mixed Pickles	10c
Hams, Small California, best quality, per pound	9c
German Mustard	10c
Mason Jar Whiskey	\$1.50
Good Rye Whiskey	\$1.50
New N. C. Herring, clipped, three dozen for 25c, \$3.75 barrel, or one-half barrel	\$2.25
Silver King Flour, best on the market, per barrel, \$5.50, or, per bag	35c

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